

Ethnic Conflict



Selected Ethnic Conflicts of the 20th Century

SSWH19 The student will demonstrate an understanding of the global social, economic, and political impact of the Cold War and decolonization from 1945 to 1989.

b. Describe the formation of the state of Israel.

SSWH20 The student will examine change and continuity in the world since the 1960s.

a. Identify ethnic conflicts and new nationalisms; include pan-Africanism, pan-Arabism, and the conflicts in Bosnia-Herzegovina and Rwanda.

Why do Ethnicities clash?

What causes conflict?

- Ethnicities compete in civil wars to dominate national identity

- Problems result from division of ethnicities among more than one state

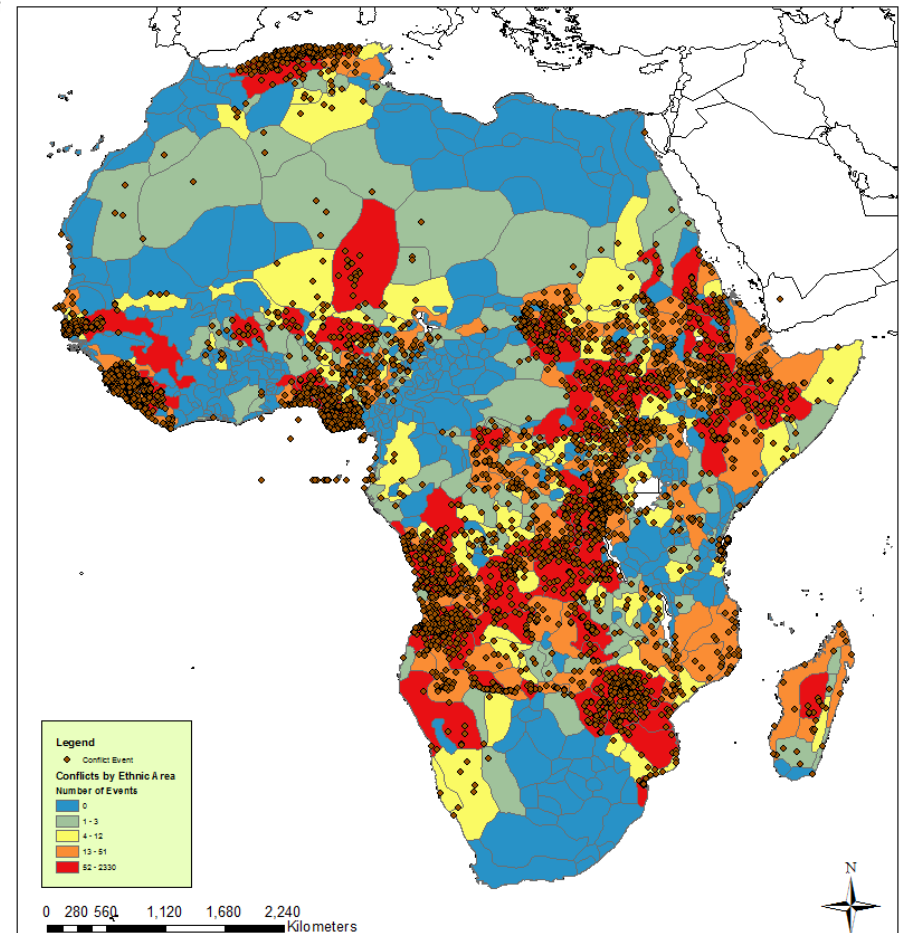
Sub-Saharan Africa especially plagues

- Horn of Africa

- Central Africa

Conflicts especially brutal

Conflicts in Africa by Ethnic Region



Ethnic Competition: Horn of Africa

Countries:

- Djibouti
- Ethiopia & Eritrea
- Somalia
- Sudan



Ethiopia/ Eritrea Conflict

Eritrea

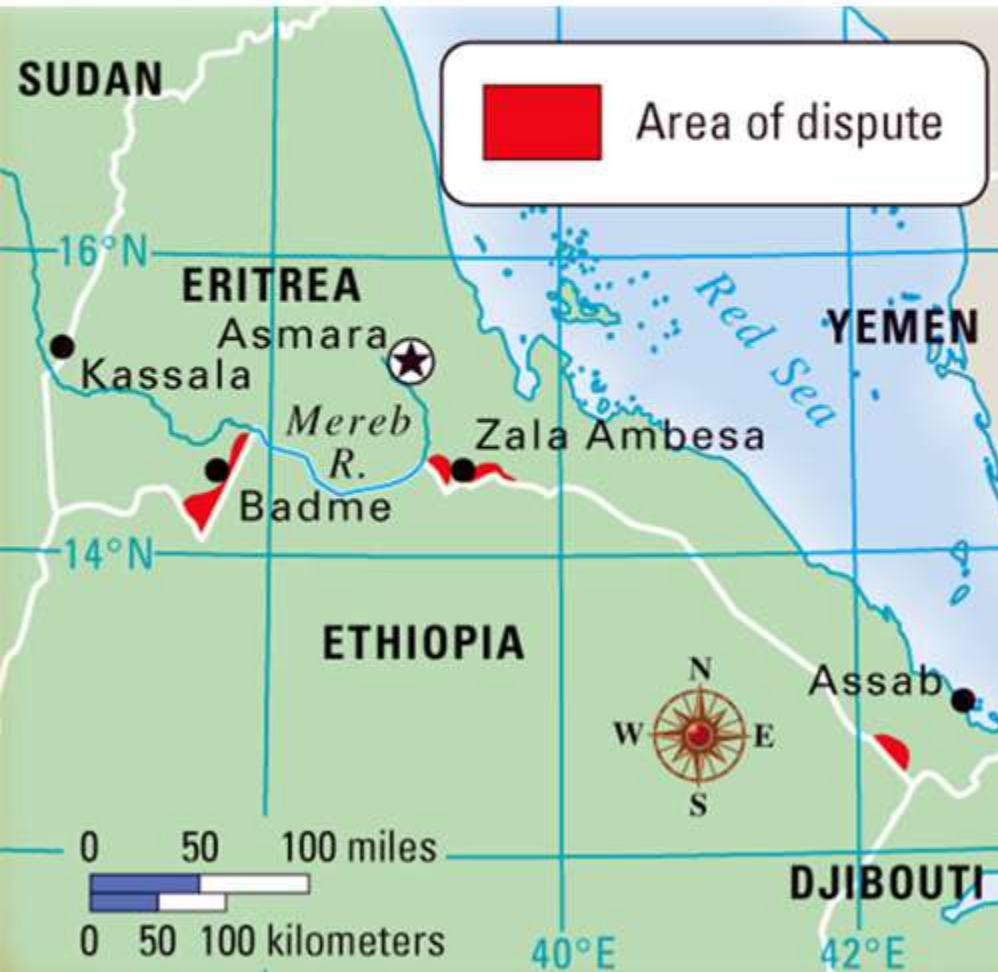
- Located along Red Sea
- Italian colony in 1890
 - Was independent for 2000 years prior to 1890
- Independent after WWII
- United Nations “gave” Eritrea to Ethiopia
 - Expected Ethiopia to give reasonable authority to Eritreans
 - Ethiopia banned Eritrea language and dissolved government
- Eritreans rebelled

Conflict

- 30 year war for independence (1961-1991)
 - 665,000 Eritrean refugees fled to Sudan
- Eritreans defeated Ethiopian army in 1991
 - Became independent state 1993
- Dispute over border in 1998 led to more conflict
- Ethiopia defeated Eritrea in 2000 and took disputed land

Ethiopia-Eritrea War

In 1993, Eritrea gained its independence from Ethiopia. But in 1998, the two countries began a border conflict over the town of Badme, Eritrea. Ethiopia occupied the town because an Ethiopian ethnic group lived there. The fighting became a full-scale war, and more than 100,000 people were killed.



Ethiopia/ Eritrea Conflict



Eritrea

- 5 million inhabitants
- Split between Christian and Muslim
- Two major ethnic groups
 - Tigrinya
 - Tigre
- Strong sense of national identity united Eritrea's ethnicities as a result of shared experiences during the 30 year war to break free of Ethiopia



Ethiopia

- Complex multiethnic state
- Controlled by Amharas (Christians)
 - Until early 1990s
- Power then passed to combination of ethnic groups
- Oromo
 - Muslim fundamentalist
 - Live in South
 - Largest Ethnicity in Ethiopia
 - 34% of population
- Amhara- 27% of population
 - Had banned languages other than their own

Sudan

- Population of 41 million

 - Civil wars have raged since 1980's

- Break-down

 - North:

 - Controlled by Arab- Muslim government

 - South:

 - Black Christians and animist ethnicities resisted northern attempt to convert the multiethnic country to a Muslim government

 - Government tried to adopt laws to segregated sexes in public

 - Single-sex schools

 - North/ South war between 1983-2005

 - 1.9 million Sudanese died

 - Ended with establishment of South Sudan in 2011

 - Conflict over three border regions

- West:

 - Black Muslim groups in Darfur region fought against government of Sudan in 2003

 - 400,000 died, 2 million refugees

 - Resented discrimination and neglect of government

 - Black Africans launched rebellion in 2005

 - Janjaweed crushed farmers

 - Genocide by Sudanese troops

- East:

 - Ethnicities fought government from 2004-2006 with support of Eritrea

 - Issue disbursement of profits from oil

Religion in Sudan
 (Colors indicate the religion adhered to by the majority of a given ethnic group. Mixed colors signify multi-faith groups, e.g. the Dinka)

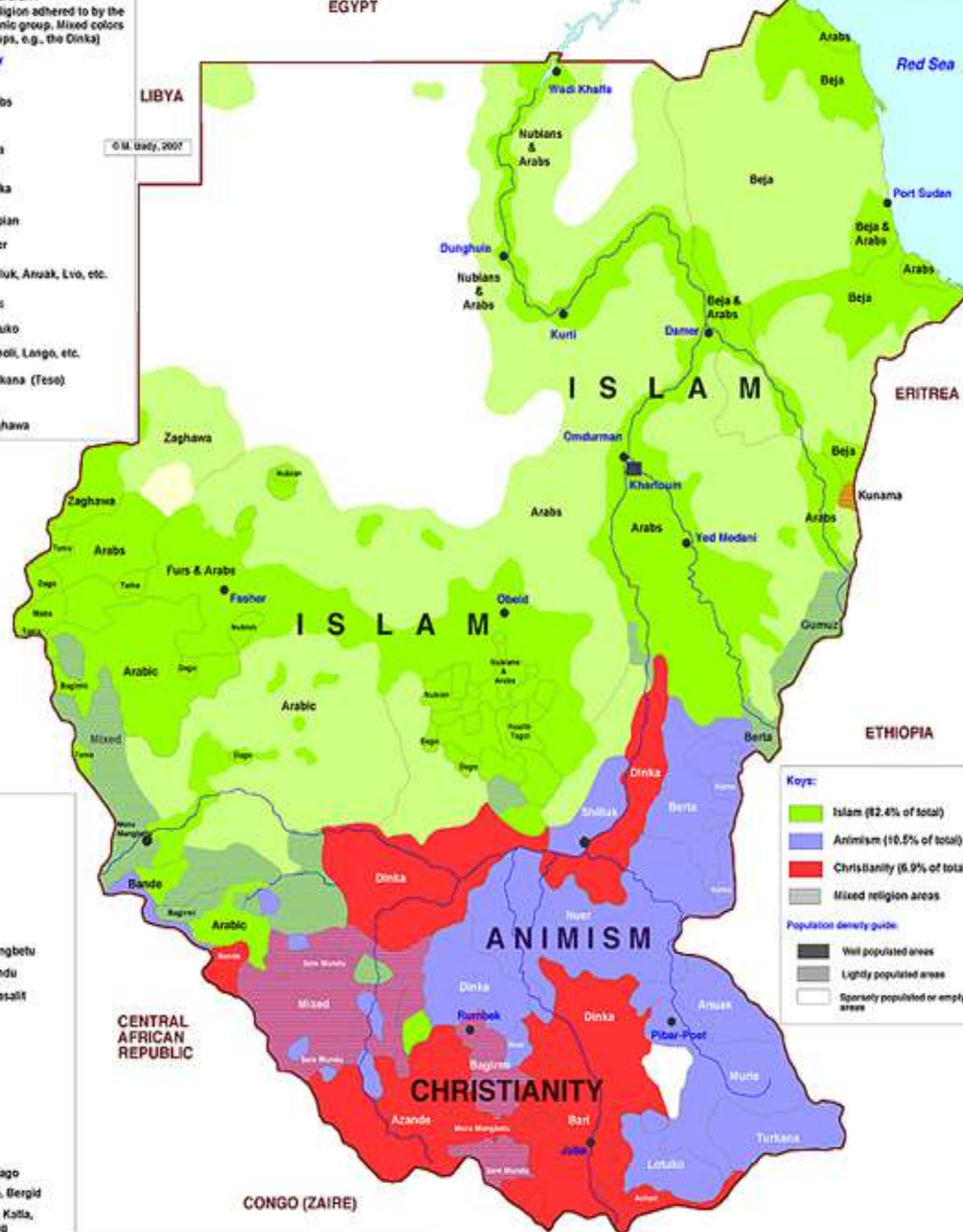
- Somito-Hamitic Family**
- Semitic Group**
 - Arabs
 - Kushitic Group**
 - Beja
 - Nilotic Family**
 - Dinka
 - Nubian
 - Nuer
 - Shilluk, Anuak, Luo, etc.
 - Bari
 - Lotuko
 - Acholi, Lango, etc.
 - Turkana (Fesse)
 - Kanuri Group**
 - Zaghawa

- Mande Family**
- Ijo Group**
 - Azande
 - Fur/Fur
 - Bande
 - Bagirmi
 - Meru Mangbetu
 - Sere Munda
 - Maba, Masalit
 - Tama
 - Dogo
 - Murle
 - Koma
 - Berta
 - Kordofan Group**
 - Koalib Tago
 - Karongo, Blergid
 - Temani, Kalla, Niyamang

EGYPT

LIBYA

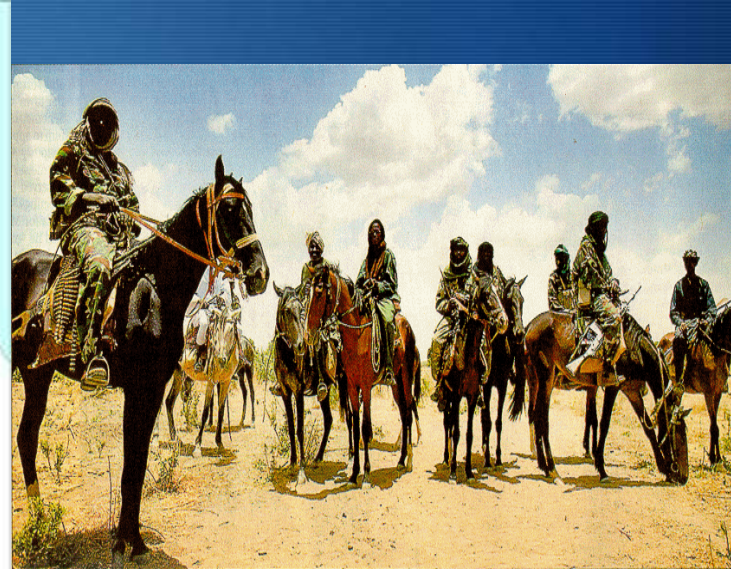
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- Keys:**
- Islam (82.4% of total)
 - Animism (10.5% of total)
 - Christianity (6.9% of total)
 - Mixed religion areas
- Population density guide:**
- Well populated areas
 - Lightly populated areas
 - Sparsely populated or empty areas

Remarks: Reconciling figures by reputable sources, foremost of which being the British colonial sources and more recent anthropological monographs, are the source for all statistical figures here. Figures produced by various governments of Sudan have been too rudimentary and/or biased to be of any value.

M. Izady



ESPEN RASMUSSEN/AGENCE FRANCE-PRESS



Somalia

- Overwhelmingly Sunni Muslim ,speak Somali

- On surface should face less divisions
- Share sense of nation, national history, and culture

- Population of 9 million

- 6 ethnic groups, clans:
 - Isakk, Darod, Dir, Digil, Hawiye, Rahanwayn
 - Traditionally occupied different regions within Somalia

- Darod clan ruled Somalia until 1991

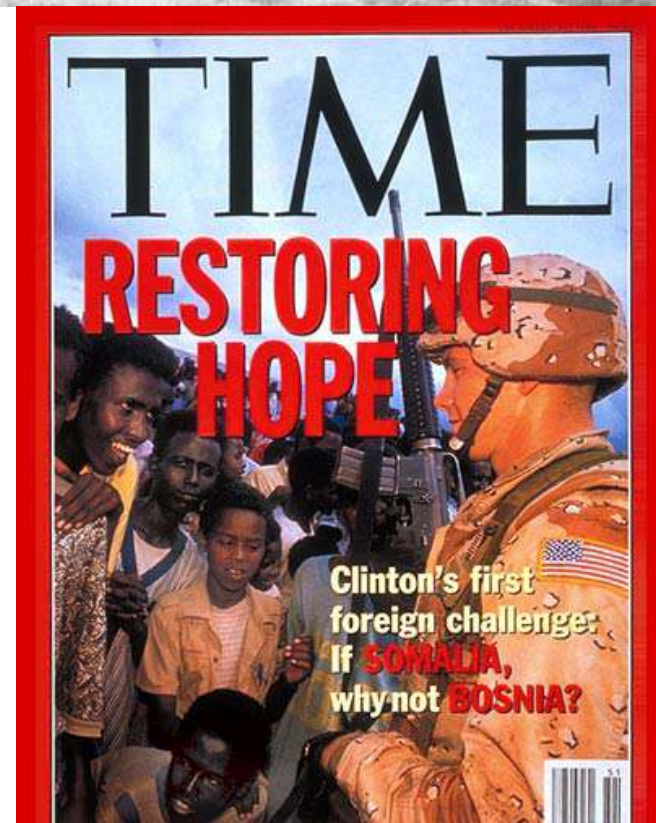
- Dictatorship collapsed
 - Clans and sub-clans claimed control over the government
 - Seized food, goods, weapons and forced less powerful clans to flee

- US sent troops in 1992 after 300,000 died

- Mainly women and children
- Mission to protect food and supply shipments from international relief organizations
 - Also reduce number of weapons in hands of rebels
- U.S. withdrew in 1994
 - Black Hawk Down/ Mogadishu

- Islamic militias took control between 2004 - 2006

- Neighbors drawn into conflict
- U.S. launched air strikes (terrorists)
- Withdrew and now have returned



South Africa

- ◆ 1948- National Party came to power, promoted Afrikaner nationalism
- ◆ Apartheid: complete separation of the races
 - ◆ No social contact between whites and blacks, segregated schools, hospitals, neighbourhoods
 - ◆ “Homelands”- reserves created for major black groups- small land areas, bad for farming
- ◆ African National Congress (ANC) organized strikes and boycotts in protest- govt banned ANC



FOR USE BY WHITE PERSONS

THESE PUBLIC PREMISES AND THE AMENITIES THEREOF HAVE BEEN RESERVED FOR THE EXCLUSIVE USE OF WHITE PERSONS.

By Order Provincial Secretary



Apartheid Ends

- ◆ S. African bishop, Desmond Tutu, asked foreign nations to impose trade restrictions on S Afr.
- ◆ 1989- new president F W. de Klerk
 - ◆ Legalized ANC
 - ◆ Released Nelson Mandela from prison
 - ◆ Parliament repealed apartheid laws
- ◆ 1994- first elections in which all could vote- Mandela elected
- ◆ 1996- new constitution

Ethnic Competition in Lebanon

Population of 4 million

- Area = 4,000 square miles
- Similar to Connecticut

Once the financial and recreational center of the Middle East

- Damaged by ethnic conflict

Religious divisions:

- 60% Muslim
 - Most belong to Shiite sects
 - Sunnis a minority, Druze also
- 39% Christian
 - Sects
 - Maronites most numerous
 - Greek Orthodox 2nd

Conflict

- Appears to be religious not ethnic
- Issue:
 - Most Christians consider themselves ethnically descended from Phoenicians
 - Muslims consider themselves Arab

History

- Lebanon became independent 1943
 - Each religion had to be represented
 - Each religious group lives in region of country

Civil War 1975, 1990

- Each group formed own private militia/army to protect territory
- Territory changed with battles

Israel

- ◆ Diaspora- global dispersal of Jews in 2nd century
 - ◆ Zionists- people who favored a Jewish national homeland in Palestine
- ◆ Palestinians (mostly Arab) and Jews wanted same land
- ◆ 1948- UN voted to split Palestine into a Palestinian state and a Jewish state (Israel)- Jerusalem to be international city
 - ◆ Palestinians rejected



The Middle East, 1947–present

- Jewish state under 1947 UN partition plan for Palestine
- Acquired by Israel during War of Independence, 1948
- Occupied by Israel after Six-Day War, 1967
- Occupied by Israel, 1967–1982
- Occupied by Israel with limited Palestinian self-government



GEOGRAPHY SKILLBUILDER: Interpreting Maps

- 1. Location** What was the southernmost point in Israel in 1947 and what might have been its strategic value?
- 2. Region** What country lies due north of Israel? east? northeast?

Israel

- ◆ Several wars between Israel and surrounding Islamic states (1948, 1956, 1967, 1973)- over time Israel gained pieces of land
- ◆ B/c of fighting, Palestinian state never came to be
 - ◆ Many Palestinians fled, became refugees
- ◆ PLO- Palestinian Liberation Organization
 - ◆ increasingly carried out attacks on Israel, later turned to suicide bombing
 - ◆ Israel retaliated
- ◆ Peace attempted many times- failed



[https://gpb.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/
9af6704a-2d16-4c36-91c9-
a680465cc55b/conflict-in-israel-and-
palestine-crash-course-world-history-223/](https://gpb.pbslearningmedia.org/resource/9af6704a-2d16-4c36-91c9-a680465cc55b/conflict-in-israel-and-palestine-crash-course-world-history-223/)

Ethnic Competition in Lebanon

- When government was created Christians a majority

 - Controlled main businesses

- As Muslims started to take over Christian majority the government could not deal with the changes

- Agreement ending 1990 civil war gave each religion ½ of the 128 seats in Parliament

- U.S. and Israel sent in troops at various points to restore peace

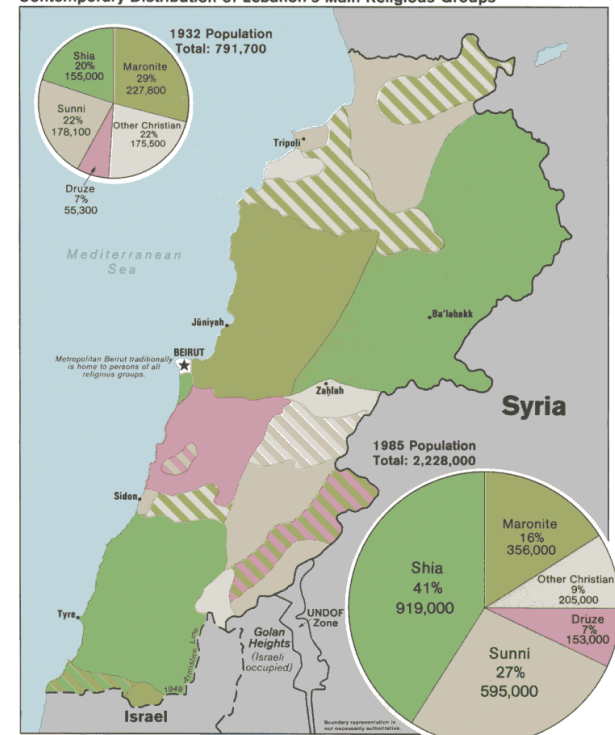
 - 1983 241 Marines died and US withdrew

- Lebanon left under control of Syria

 - Had historical claim to territory

 - Syria withdrew its troops in 2005

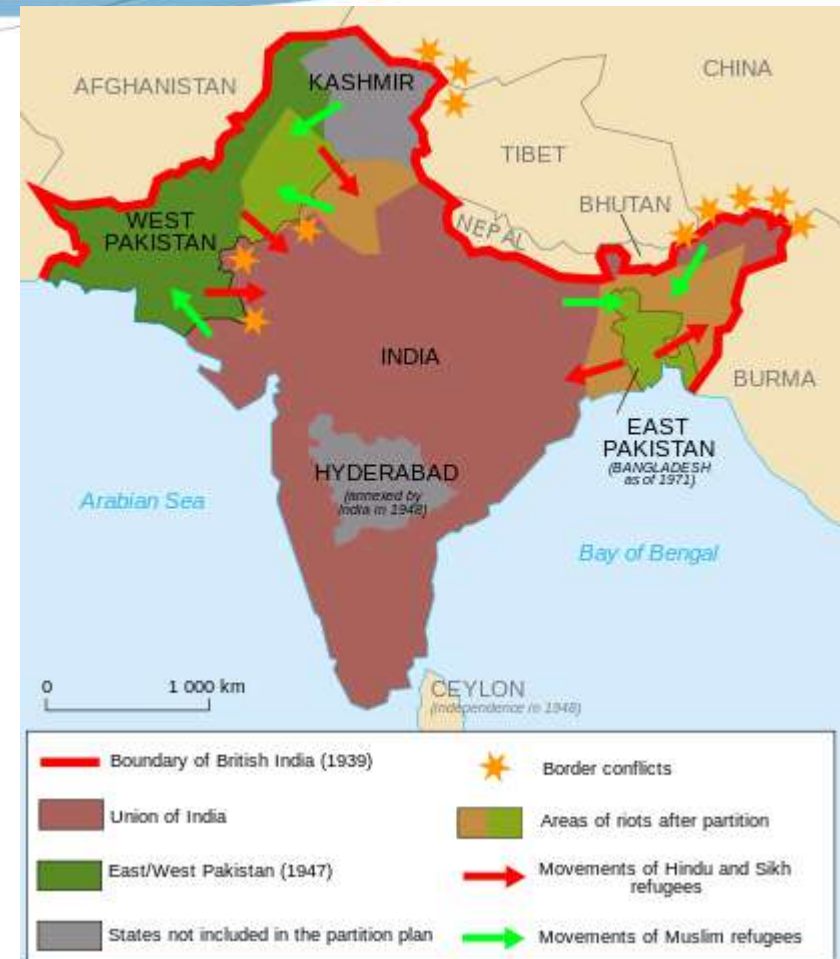
Contemporary Distribution of Lebanon's Main Religious Groups



Dividing Ethnicities among more than one state

India

- British control
 - Three-way struggle
 - Gandhi
- British rule ended in 1947
- Two countries created
 - ⑩ India and Pakistan
 - Pakistan separated into East and West Pakistan
 - Bangladesh in 1971
 - ⑩ Basis for separating was Ethnicity
 - Pakistan predominantly Muslim
 - India predominately Hindu
 - ⑩ Hinduism has become source of unity for India
- Long history of dispute between two groups



India and Pakistan Conflict

- ◆ **Partition** of South Asia led to mass migration

- ◆ 17 million on “wrong” side of boundary migrated

- ◆ 7 million Muslims

- ◆ 9.5 million Hindus

- ◆ Created “battles” when two paths crossed

- ◆ Neither country agreed on boundaries

- ◆ Issue over Kashmir

- ⑩ “line of control”

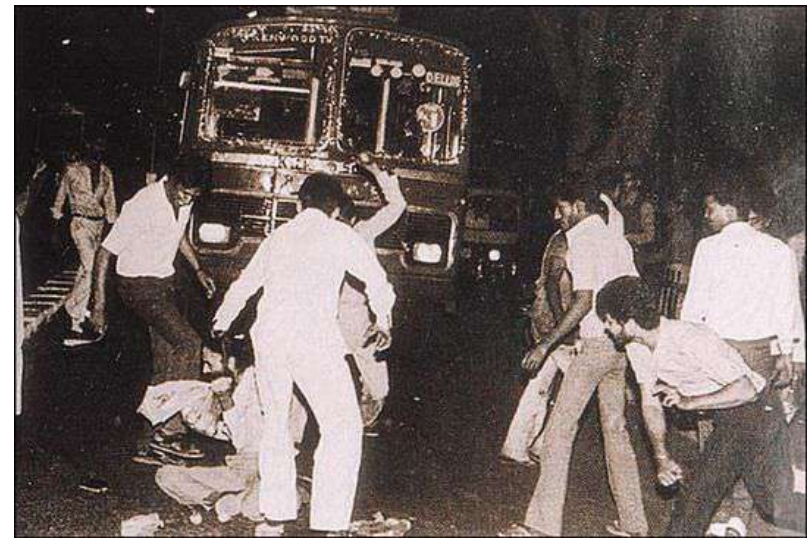
- ⑩ War for reunification of Kashmir

- ◆ Sikhs

- ◆ 25 million in Punjab region

- ◆ Resent not given own country

- ◆ Extremists have fought for more control or complete independence from India



Sri Lanka

Island country

- 20 million inhabitants

Torn between Sinhalese and Tamils

- Fighting since 1983
 - Continued until 2009
 - 80,000 have died

Sinhalese

- 82% of population
- Converted to Buddhism
- Speak Sinhalese (Indo-European)

Tamils

- 14% of population
 - Occupies northern part of Island
- Hindu
- Speak Tamil (Dravidian)

Dispute really over 2,000 years old

- Suppressed during 300 yrs of European control

Independent in 1948

- Sinhalese dominated government, military, and commerce
 - Tamils feel discriminated against
 - Rebellion began in 1983
- A Tamil assassinated Sinhalese president in 1993

2009

- Tamils defeated
- Fear future of Sri Lanka as a multinational state is jeopardized
 - Worried it will return to Buddhism as enforced religion and Sinhalese as official language like in 1950s



Key Issue #4

What is Ethnic Cleansing?



What is Ethnic Cleansing?

- Throughout history, ethnic groups have been forced to flee from other ethnic groups' more powerful armies.

- Definition:

- process in which a more powerful ethnic group forcibly removes a less powerful one in order to create an ethnically homogeneous region.

- In recent years, ethnic cleansing has been carried out primarily in Europe and Africa

- Ethnic cleansing is undertaken to rid an area of an entire ethnicity so that the surviving ethnic group can be the sole inhabitants

- Different from traditional wars

- Point is not to simply to defeat but completely exterminate

- Involves removal of males, females, and children

Ethnic Cleansing in Europe

- Largest forced migration came during WWII (1939-1945)

- Deportation of Jews, gypsies, and other ethnic groups to concentration camps

- After WWII

- Millions of ethnic Germans, Poles, Russians, and other groups forced to migrate as a result of boundary changes

- Recently

- Ethnic cleansing has occurred in former Yugoslavia

- Complex pattern of ethnic diversity in Balkan peninsula



Creation of Multiethnic Yugoslavia

- Part of a complex pattern of ethnic diversity in the Balkan Peninsula

- Region, size of Texas, is named for Balkan mountains that extend east-west across the region

- Includes:

- Albania, Bulgaria, Greece, and Romania
- As well as former Yugoslavia

- Complex assemblage of ethnicities has long been a hotbed of unrest

- Northern portions incorporated into the Austro-Hungarian Empire

- Christian

- Southern portions were ruled by the Ottoman Empire

- Muslim

- June 1914

- Arch Duke Ferdinand of Austro-Hungarian Empire was assassinated by a Serbian who sought independence for Bosnia (Black Hand)

- Started WWI

- After WWI

- Yugoslavia created

- Dictator Joseph Tito
- 1953-1980

- Creation brought stability that lasted for most of 20th century

- Old animosities among ethnic group were submerged
- Identified as Yugoslavs

Yugoslavia

- Spoke similar South Slavic Languages

- Ethnicities included:

- Serbs
- Croats
- Slovenes
- Macedonians
- Montenegrins

- 7 neighbors:

- Austria, Greece, Italy, Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary and Romania

- 6 republics:

- Bosnia & Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia

- 5 nationalities:

- Croats, Macedonians, Montenegro, Serbia and Slovenia

- 4 languages:

- Croatian, Macedonian, Serbian, and Slovene

- 3 religions:

- Roman Catholic, Eastern Orthodox, and Islam

- 2 alphabets:

- Croatian and Slovene

- 1 dinar:

- national unit of currency

Destruction of Multiethnic Yugoslavia

- After Tito's death in 1980's, ethnicity rivalry reemerged

- Break-up of country
 - End of Communism also contributed

- Independent countries were formed:

- Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, and Slovenia in 1990's
- Montenegro in 2006
- Serbia an independent country

- Ethnicities fought hard to redefine the boundaries

- Did not happen successfully
 - Boundaries did not correspond to ethnicities
 - Some ethnicities ignored



Sowing the seeds of hate

The Bosnian War, one of the most brutal of the conflicts that broke up Communist Yugoslavia, began in April 1992.

The region at the time of the war

Centuries of domination

Although Serbs, Croats and Slovenes share the same ethnic roots, centuries of foreign domination led them to see themselves as distinct peoples.

14th century: Turks rule in east



In 1389, Ottoman Turks took Serbia at the Battle of Kosovo; by the late 15th century, they controlled Bosnia-Herzegovina as well; during 400 years of Turkish rule, some Serbs, Croats converted to Islam, eventually creating a split between Muslims and Orthodox Christians.

16th century: Austrians rule in west



In 1526, Croatia and Slovenia came under the Catholic Austrian king's control; many Croats and Slovenes converted to Catholicism, creating another distinction among Slavs; tensions between Serbs and Croats in Croatia began when Austrians relocated thousands of Serbs to the Croat-Bosnian border in the 19th century.

19th century: Rise of nationalism



At the 1878 Congress of Berlin, after Russia's defeat of the Turks, the Serbs got their independence; but other deals made at the Congress angered them. Kosovo and Macedonia, regions the Serbs considered theirs, remained with the Turks; Bosnia-Herzegovina went to the Austro-Hungarians.

SLOVENIA

In 1990, the Communist Party was voted out of power, marking the beginning of Yugoslavia's break-up; Slovenia struggled against Serbia for independence in 1991, winning easily.



CROATIA

Croats and Serbs went to war in July 1991 over Croatia's bid for independence; U.N. brokered a cease-fire in 1992.

Krajina In 1991, Serbian separatists in the region declared it the Republic of Serbian Krajina and fought the Croats; they were reintegrated into Croatia in 1998.



YUGOSLAVIA

In 1992, Serbia and Montenegro declared themselves successors to the old Yugoslavia and under President Slobodan Milosevic fought to unite the region's Serbs into "Greater Serbia"; became independent nations in 2006.

MACEDONIA

The nation gained independence peacefully from Yugoslavia in 1991, but argued with Greece over its name, which has been formally recognized by the U.S., 133 others since 2004.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

The three-year war that left more than 100,000 dead erupted among Croats, Serbs and Muslims in Bosnia after the republic declared independence in 1992; NATO intervened in 1995 after more than 8,000 Bosnian Muslims were massacred at Srebrenica by the Bosnian Serb Army; the Dayton Agreement brought the conflict to an end in December 1995.

Sarajevo and eastern Bosnia
Fighting was fiercest here where Serbs applied their policy of "ethnic cleansing," trying to drive all Muslims out.

KOSOVO

Then an autonomous Serbian region comprised mainly of ethnic Albanians, Kosovo's campaign for independence in the 1990s led to a NATO operation against Serbia in 1999 and a U.N. peace-keeping administration; declared formal independence, which is still not recognized by Serbia, in 2008.

Decades of discord

Conflict between Serbs and Croats has erupted several times during this century, the tensions contained only by dictators' strong wills.

1919-41: An unruly Yugoslavia emerges



The treaty ending World War I cobbled a kingdom out of the fallen Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman empires; 10 years of quarrelling between Serbs and Croats, who thought Serbs dominated the kingdom, led King Alexander to rename it Yugoslavia and set up a virtual dictatorship in 1929; angry Croats reacted by forming a fascist separatist movement, the Ustase.

1941-45: The first Serb-Croat war

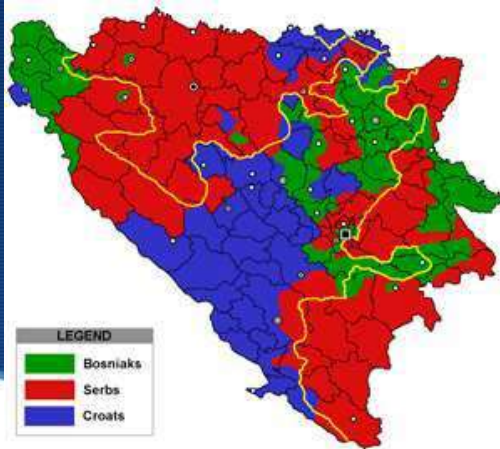


In 1941, Hitler partitioned Yugoslavia, rewarding the Ustase with control of Croatia; thousands of Serbs, Jews and Gypsies were killed by Croats and Germans, sometimes with the help of Bosnian Muslims; the Ustase forced thousands of Orthodox Serbs to be baptized; Serbs retaliated. In the civil war that followed, as many as 1 million Yugoslavs died.

1945-80: Tito suppresses hatreds



Emerging from the war as a Balkan leader, Josef Tito remade Yugoslavia as a federation under Communist government and kept it intact by suppressing ethnic rivalries; among his actions that angered Serbs was granting Vojvodina and Kosovo autonomy; his death in 1980 created a power vacuum, later filled by Serbian nationalist Slobodan Milosevic, who died in 2006 in prison awaiting verdict on war crimes charges.



Bosnia



Creation of a viable country proved especially difficult in the case of Bosnia and Herzegovina

Population

- 48% Bosnian Muslim
- 37% Serb
- 14% Croat

Bosnian Muslims considered an ethnicity not a nationality

Serbs and Croats in Bosnia wanted to unite Bosnia with Serbia and/or Croatia

- Did not want to live in an independent multiethnic country with a Muslim plurality

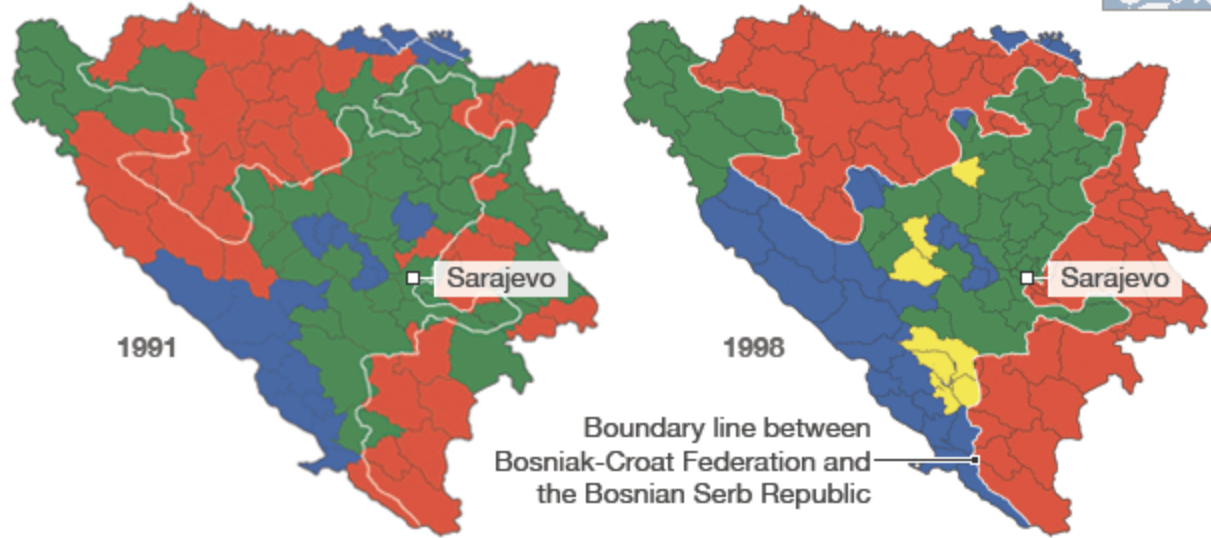
To strengthen case for unification Serbs and Croats started to “eliminate” Bosnian Muslims

- Would leave each area ethnically homogeneous and provide reason to reunify
- Ethnic cleansing especially bad because Bosnian Serbs were separated from Bosnian majorities

Dayton Accords

- Dayton, Ohio 1996
- Leaders of various ethnicities
- Bosnia was divided into three separate areas
 - Serbiens received nearly half of the country
 - Croatian and Muslim areas were combined into a federation

Ethnic make-up of Bosnia-Herzegovina, before and after the war



■ Predominantly Croat ■ Predominantly Serb
■ Predominantly Bosniak ■ Bosniak-Croat mixed

Source: Office of the High Representative



Kosovo

- ◆ Serbia remained multi-ethnic after break-up of Yugoslavia

- ◆ Province of Kosovo was an problem

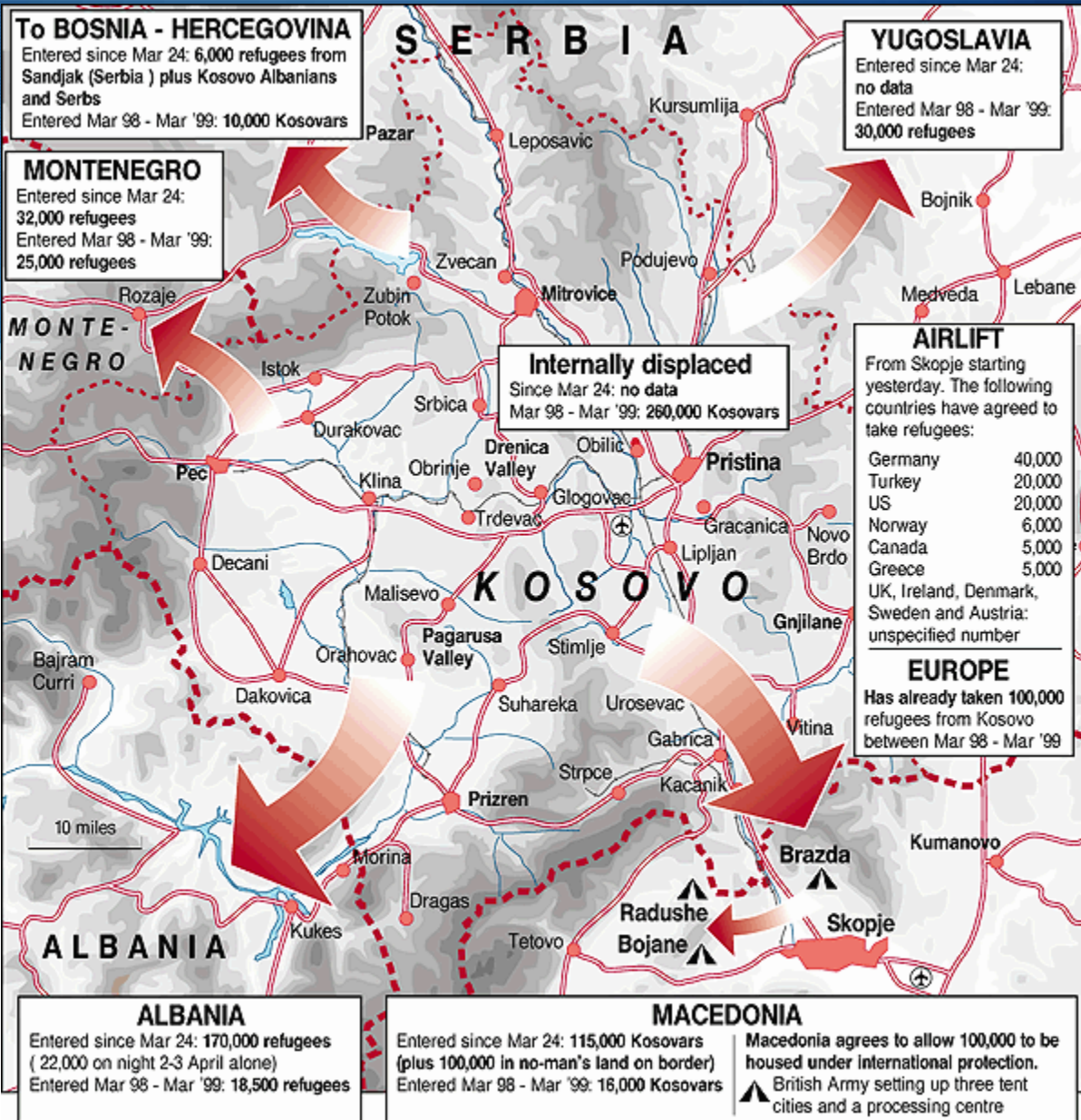
- ◆ Comprised of 90% ethnic Albanians
 - ⑩ Under Tito, ethnic Albanians received autonomy and a national identity

- ◆ History

- ◆ Serbia had historical claim
 - ◆ Controlled it in 12th -14th centuries
 - ◆ Fought Ottoman Empire for control and lost in 1389
 - ◆ Serbia given control of Kosovo when Yugoslavia was created

- ◆ Break-up of Yugoslavia

- ◆ Serbia took direct control
 - ◆ Slobodan Milosevic
 - ◆ Launched campaign of ethnic cleansing against Albanians
 - ◆ At peak, forced 750,000 of Kosovo's 2 million Albanians to flee
- ◆ NATO launched air strikes
 - ◆ Serbia withdrew
- ◆ Kosovo declared independence in 2008
 - ◆ 60 countries recognize (U.S.)



Balkanization

Balkanized

- small geographic area that could not be successfully be organized into one or more stable states
- Because it was inhabited by many ethnicities with long-standing tensions
- Used a century ago

Balkanization

- process by which a state breaks down through conflicts among its ethnicities
- Seen as a threat to peace throughout the world

Balkanization led to WWI

- After WWI and WWII and the rise and fall of Communism during the 20th century the Balkans have once again become Balkanized in the 21st century



Ethnic Cleansing in Central Africa

- ◆ Ethnic conflict is widespread in Africa largely because the present-day boundaries do not match the boundaries of ethnic groups

- ◆ European Imperialism in the 19th and 20th century redrew boundaries with little regard for distribution of ethnicities

- ◆ Africa contains thousands of ethnicities

- ◆ Traditionally most important unit in African society was the tribe

- ◆ Rather than independent states

- ◆ When Africa nations won their independence in the 1950s and 1960s, the boundaries tended to match those imposed by European powers

- ◆ As a result some tribes were divided among more than one modern state

- ◆ Some grouped with dissimilar tribes



Ethnic cleansing in Rwanda and Burundi

- Long-standing conflicts between two ethnic groups, the Hutus and Tutsis, lie at the heart of a series of wars in central Africa

- Hutus

- Farmers, valley of Rwanda and Burundi

- Tutsis

- Cattle-herders

- Migrated from East Africa in Kenya, 400 years ago

- Took control of the kingdom of Rwanda and turned Hutus into serfs

- Only 15% of population

- European power

- Both became colony of Germany in 1899

- After WWI became a colony of Belgium

- Colonial administrators favored Tutsis to Hutus

- Independence 1962

- Hutus allowed to vote

- Won elections

- Killed Tutsis for past injustices

- European power

- Both became colony of Germany in 1899

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- Independence 1962

- Hutus allowed to vote

- Won elections

- Killed Tutsis for past injustices

- 1994- Rwanda

- Hutu president shot down

- Hutus killed Tutsis

- Tutsis that survived launched counter-cleansing genocide

- Also occurred in Burundi

- Spilled into neighboring countries such as:

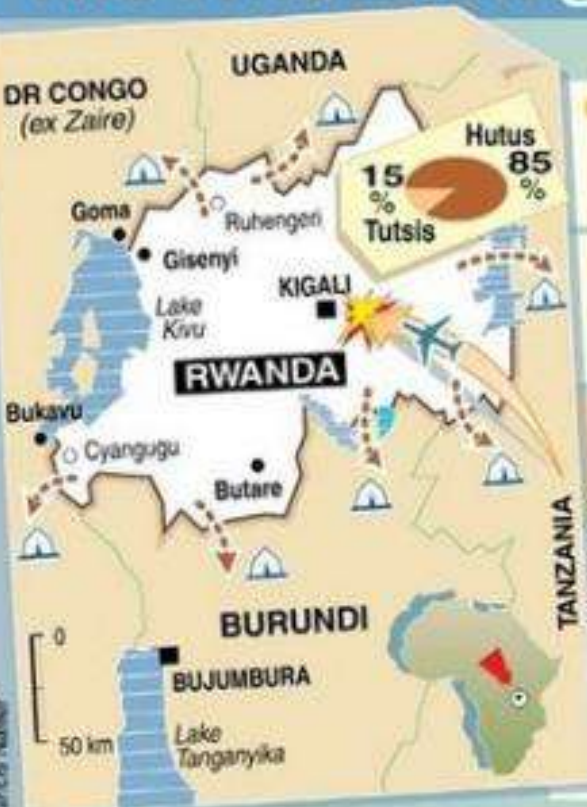
- Democratic Republic of the Congo

- Democratic elections have been held in both



The Rwandan genocide

1994



April 6
 Plane carrying president Habyarimana, a Hutu, is shot down

April 7
 Massacre of Tutsis and moderate Hutus for more than four months

Toll
 800,000 killed

Massive exodus of refugees to bordering countries

June 23
 Operation Turquoise: Western military intervention



Ethnic cleansing in Africa

- ◆ Congo is the region's largest and most populous country

- ◆ Thought to have the world's deadliest war since 1945

 - ◆ 5.4 million have died as of 2009

- ◆ Tutsis overthrew Congo president Joseph Mobutu in 1997

 - ◆ During his rule he limited European influence and changed name to Zaire

 - ⑩ Changed city names to "African name"

 - ◆ Amassed a personal fortune while impoverishing the rest of the country

- ◆ Tutsis led a rebellion,

 - ◆ replaced President with Joseph Kabila

 - ◆ Kabila relied heavily on Tutsis

 - ◆ Allowed them to kill Hutus in early 1990s

- ◆ Kabili split with Tutsis

 - ◆ Rebels tried to overthrow government again

- ◆ Angola, Namibia, Zimbabwe came to help Kabila

 - ◆ Kabili was assassinated in 2001

 - ◆ Son negotiated accord with rebels in 2002

- ◆ Fighting continues in the Congo, especially in the East

